

All-State Choir, Orchestra take state tour

By Tony Martin
Associate Editor

Making a joyful noise was never so much fun.

For the 135 youth and adult participants in the 2001 Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra, the two days of preparation and the seven days of touring made for a memorable summer event.

"It was so awesome," said Samantha Davis of First Church, Taylorsville. "We only had two days of practice to learn all our music."

"We started out at William Carey College with rehearsals," said Bess Wilson of Diamondhead Church, Diamondhead.

"We've been on the go ever since."

"The hardest thing," Wilson continued, "has been having to get up so early and go

to assemble Christ-like young people and adults to worship and lead in worship of Almighty God; grow spiritually and musically; experience and present different styles of Christian musical literature; establish a state network of Christian peers and

"IT'S AWESOME" — During a break before performance at Gulfshore Assembly in Pass Christian, Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir members reflecting on their week's experiences include (from left) Bess Wilson of Diamondhead Church, Diamondhead; Lindz Smith of Summerland Church, Taylorsville; Samantha Davis of First Church, Taylorsville; and Shawn Harris of First Church, Picayune. (Photo by Tony Martin)

conferences, and other missions of the Southern Baptist Convention; and help bring Mississippi and the world to Jesus.

The choir was first organized in 1993 by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) under the leadership of Susan Clark, youth music consultant, and L. Graham Smith, department director. The choir is made up of 9-12th graders who must be recommended by their pastor, school leaders, or minister of music.

Richard Joiner, head of the music department at Mississippi College in Clinton, has been choral director since the choir's inception. David Young, instrumental director at William Carey College in Hattiesburg, and instrumental consultant for the Church Music Department, is the choir's orchestra director.

The group performed at seven churches,

plus the Music Leadership Conference at Gulfshore Assembly in Pass Christian.

"I've never been in a choir this big with so many great voices," said Shawn Harris of First Church, Picayune. Echoing Davis' sentiments, Harris proclaimed the whole experience "awesome."

"The leadership has made the difference," said Harris. "Plus, you're with a group that wants to sing. I'd do it again."

The Mississippi Baptist All-State Choir and Orchestra is supported by gifts to the Mississippi Cooperative Program. Auditions for the 2002 choir and orchestra will be held in October and November of this year.

For more information, contact Clark at the MBCB Church Music Department, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3274 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 274. E-mail: sclark@mbcb.org.

WHAT'S IN THE RECORD

Collegians stretch faith

Directions

Letters to the editor

Sunday School lessons

all day. There's a lot of stress on our throats. We're not even supposed to laugh because of the strain on our voices."

"No soft drinks, either," added Davis.

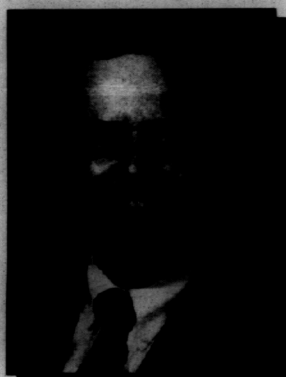
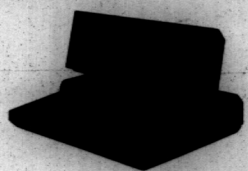
The All-State Choir and Orchestra, according to their mission statement, seeks

Miss. CP on track

Mississippi Communist Party members in the work of the
Land for the People campaign. The CP has been active in a
number of other areas, including the Mississippi Futural
Council, the National Black Leadership Initiative Conference,
the National Black Political Convention, and the National Black
Congress. The CP has also been active in the third highest
grossed film industry in the world, the motion picture industry.
The CP has received \$3,214,015, and May's executive month that CP
has received \$9.2% lower than last year. In the same period
last year, the CP received \$9.2% more than last year, which runs from
annual budget. The CP has set each year by messengers to the annual
of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, and messengers to
annual meeting approved a record CP budget of
197. Mississippi CP helps fund such programs as the Royce
Ambassadors, Challenger Camp July 23-27 at Central Hill Retreat
near Kosciusko; the Youth in Action Summer Camp July 23-27 at
Camp Caraway in Clinton; and the Young Missions Camp July 23-
27 at Blue Mountain College, Blue Mountain.

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 year to date, designated giving is 37% of the year
 153,407,598.00 as compared to \$27,688,52.68 in inc
 5,718,35.34 For the SBC Cooperative Program Al
 budget the year-to-date receipts are \$725,3395 above th
 budgeted \$12,997,23.75, or 105.2% of budget The monthl
 receipts showed the \$15,640,033.39 received as 11.73% of th
 budgeted amount of \$13,997,598.75

EDITOR'S NOTEBOOK



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It's a dog's life in America

On July 13, Andrew Burnett found out the price of a dog's life. For throwing Leo, a diminutive Bichon Frise breed, into oncoming traffic on a busy California freeway, Burnett, age 27, was convicted of animal cruelty and handed the maximum sentence — three years in the state's notorious penal system — by a judge who didn't buy his remorseful apology.

"It's a case of rage-induced violence," said Judge Kevin Murphy of Burnett's angry reaction to an insignificant fender-bender accident with Leo's owner.

"I believe prison can send a message and it can deter," Murphy pointed out.

Across the country, people seem to be waking up to the need to ensure proper treatment of the animals among us and deter such violence against them.

While radical groups like People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and Earth First have taken their crusades to extremes, there is a huge middle ground of thought that animals — even those we ultimately plan to consume as food — should simply be treated with dignity.

Christians ought to understand that concept. Gen. 1:26 establishes man's husbandry toward the lower creatures God created even before he created us (Gen. 1:24). Common decency should dictate that we care and provide for animals — especially those domesticated animals that serve us as pets.

So Andrew Burnett learned an important lesson the hard way: the life of an animal is important and cannot be taken lightly.

Would that we felt the same way about human life. In America, it would have been to Burnett's advantage to throw a pre-born human into the freeway instead of a dog.

Every day in America, full-term babies are torn from their mother's wombs at abortion clinics and hospitals, then bagged as "medical waste" and incinerated or

shoved down a common garbage disposal. Maybe throwing them into a freeway would be more merciful.

Can you imagine a country in which the judicial and political systems put more importance on the life of a dog than the life of a human?

Can you imagine a country that punishes a grown man for throwing a defenseless animal into traffic but wouldn't punish the same man for causing the death of a defenseless human in a considerably more horrendous way?

Can you imagine a country where a man spends the rest of his life as a convicted felon for animal cruelty, while abortionists who inflict even greater cruelties on humans are defended and, yea, lauded by society and its leaders?

We're living in that country. Modern America is a hodgepodge of confusing, contradictory, and even deadly ideas.

A dog is important; a human is not. The sick and elderly, their "quality of life" at an end, can be euthanized simply because there is a need for the hospital bed they are occupying.

The earliest humans can be destroyed for their stem cells, under the argument that their lives are a small sacrifice to make in order to save other lives.

Thriving pre-born babies can be flushed into a clinic sink because they weren't "planned" or will otherwise interfere with how we want to live our lives. "Choice" reigns sovereign over America.

That's what happens when a people decide to free themselves from any moral or ethical restraints whatsoever. If killing a developing child is immoral, let us simply eradicate morality!

**"I'VE GOT SALT AND LIGHT.
BRING ON THE CORRUPTION
AND DARKNESS."**



If it is unethical to extract stem cells for research from a human who is ultimately killed, then let us rewrite our ethics!

If Christians hold up the Bible as mankind's anchor and condemn such mindless behavior, let us marginalize them as dangerous zealots and their Book as a mere collection of folk tales.

As brilliant as we believe we are, God is not mocked. The eternal code of conduct that he laid out for us in the Bible is as relevant today as ever.

If history teaches any lesson, it is that we ignore this crucial fact at our peril. In a country where a dog's life means more than a human's life, we'd best be finding our way back to God's way before it's too late.

GUEST OPINION:

Partnership grows with vols' help

By Thomas and June Nolen

Fieldside Coordinators

Miss./Ukraine Partnership Project



We are still having people tell us how they were blessed by this group. We also thank Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, for being a part of this group. He was such an encouragement to us.

We are so thankful for all the love, encouragement, teaching ministries, children's work, humanitarian efforts, physical labor, and preaching of the Gospel that all the teams have so graciously given to the people here. God has richly blessed!

We will look forward to each team that will be coming this summer. We want to thank each one of you for coming or helping someone to come to share Jesus Christ.

The summer has finally arrived. Warm weather is here

at last. The strawberries and cherries are very plentiful, and very delicious.

We have finally shed our coats and would like to go barefoot, but it is a little too dirty for that.

Perhaps we will soon go to the mud baths. We have been told that the baths are very good for your health.

Now, if only I had a drink of Mississippi water! The water here is carbonated and tastes as if it has soda in it. We are adjusting to it, though.

June is studying Russian and became really scared when she went down to the bus station to order tickets and the ticket agent understood her Russian.

June asked her if she understood and when she said yes, June asked her again if she needed to repeat the request.

When the ticket agent said no, June almost fainted.

Please continue to pray for the work here, for:

- hearts to be softened to receiving the message
- safety and health of the volunteers
- our safety and health.

Pray for good relations and understanding as we work with so many Ukrainian pastors and people.

Pray for God to lead the work and give us direction for the next year.

Thank God for the doors that are open to share the Gospel and for the people who are willing to come and share.

We also thank God for Kirby and Linda Smith, who have been such a blessing to us.

We love you and thank God for you.

Editor's note: The Partnership Missions Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board is currently coordinating partnerships with Ukraine, Honduras, the Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware, Impact Northeast, and a special project for "World A" unreached people groups. For more information, see the special insert in the middle of this week's issue of The Baptist Record.

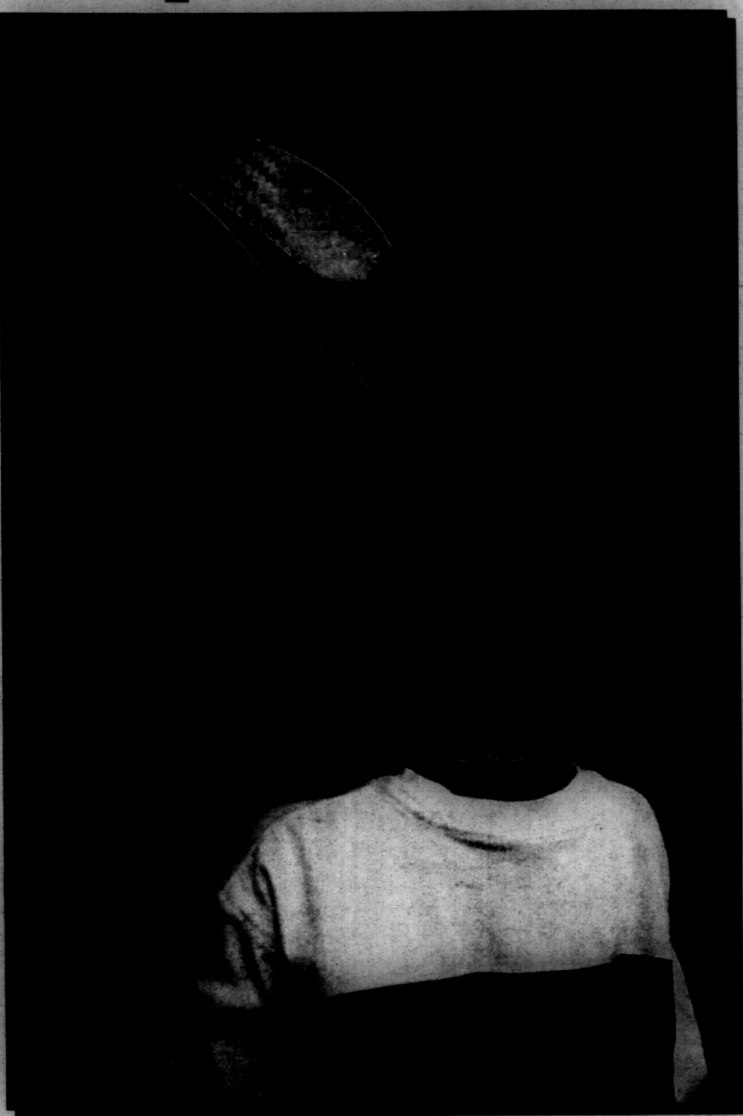
L I T T L E
ROCK, Ark.
(Special) —

While many parents and grandparents were packing up the kids and heading to the beaches, mountains, or favorite getaway spots this summer, a host of Southern Baptist families recently gathered their youngsters and went on mission to share the good news of Christ.

Ministering side-by-side, these mothers and daughters, fathers and sons, husbands and wives, and grandparents and grandchildren united in central Arkansas to take part in Family-FEST 2001.

FamilyFEST is a national project of Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) auxiliary of the Southern Baptist Convention. The event brings families together to work with local volunteers in a highly concentrated effort on ongoing missions

The first-time family missions event, held June 20-23 in Little Rock, drew more than 100 volunteers. Similar FamilyFEST



BIG CATCH — Larry Tate (left) of Pelahatchie hosts a fishing booth during a block party at Life Line Church, Little Rock, Ark., during FamilyFEST. The children received a variety of treats, including matchbox cars. National Woman's Missionary Union sponsored FamilyFEST. (WMU photo)

projects are planned for 2002 in Chattanooga, Tenn., and Chicago, Ill.

This was the third MissionsFEST project sponsored by WMU. Two others are

scheduled in October
in Philadelphia, Pa.

During FamilyFEST, families representing 11 states participated in various outreach and witnessing projects in several Little Rock metro areas.

The missions activities, which assisted area church ministries, included backyard Bible clubs, prayer-walking, light construction, block parties, reading clubs, and hunger ministries.

Other ministry projects targeted nursing homes and needy residents.

Among the volunteers was WMU national president Janet Hoffman of Louisiana. She was joined by her daughter Shelda of Dallas and her son Bill and his family from Shreveport, La.

The Hoffman family ministered at the Little Rock Rice Depot where they and several other volunteers helped label thousands of canned goods, as well as packaged chicken products.

These food items will eventually be distributed to food pantries statewide and will help feed thousands of hungry Arkansans.

Janet Hoffman called this family affair an opportunity to "participate in hands-on missions."

She said her family has always put a high priority on missions, but FamilyFEST was the ~~first time~~ she and her children had joined in a volunteer project out of their home state.

"Now that my children are adults, it is such a blessing to see them living a missions lifestyle before their own children," shared Hoffman.

"The thrill of three generations of our family working side-by-side on mission for God is fulfilling and bonding beyond description," she said.

In southwest Little Rock,

several families joined members of Life Line and Promiseland churches in their efforts to reach out to the local neighborhoods.

At these sites, volunteers canvassed the area where they prayed for the lost, invited residents to local block parties, and helped children with reading skills.

Life Line pastor Don Chancellor said the FamilyFEST volunteers aided his church in kicking off a ministry at a local apartment complex and helped them minister to a growing African-American community.

"They (volunteers) have helped us reach out to the community, 90 percent which are probably lost and don't go to church anywhere," shared Chancellor.



"We are seen by many as the big church on the corner, and the volunteers have helped us break down barriers... and build bridges for the Gospel," he said.

Expressing her gratitude to the families and others who gave up their time to minister in the Natural State, Arkansas WMU executive director Julia Ketner said the missions teams have aided the ministry of local churches, as well as planted seeds for the gospel.

"These volunteers have been extra strength for ministries that are ongoing here in Little Rock," said Ketner.

"Many local churches do not have sufficient people to staff these ministries, and these volunteers have helped these churches meet needs... because they were willing to come here to Arkansas."

Ketner said she hopes the Arkansas missions project will motivate families to seek out similar missions needs in their communities.

WASHINGTON (BP) — Determined to block the courts from legalizing homosexual marriage, a coalition of minority and religious leaders unveiled plans Thursday to wed traditional marriage with the U.S. Constitution. The Alliance for Marriage is proposing the Federal Marriage Amendment, which would define matrimony as a union between one man and one woman as a once-and-for-all standard that supporters hope will keep activist judges from giving homosexual partners full marital status, according to a report in CNSNews.com. "Let the homosexual community play by the same rules and go through the democratic process," said Matt Daniels, executive director of Alliance for Marriage. The amendment, which would require the approval of both houses of Congress and the legislatures of 38 states for ratification, would add constitutional validity to the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), as well as traditional-marriage laws on the books of 34 states, CNSNews.com reported. The measure, dubbed a "nuclear bomb" by one critic, has enraged homosexual activists, who see the proposal as a mean-spirited attack on Vermont's civil-unions law. "This organization is intending to, in our view, write out gay and lesbians from the constitution," said David Smith, spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign. The Alliance for Marriage insists, however, that under the new law voters and state legislatures, not the courts, could authorize civil unions. Whether homosexual couples could receive full marriage benefits is unclear, Daniels said. "Gay and lesbian people are not going to be

THE SECOND FRONT PAGE

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**Bible teacher
Ron Dunn
dies in Texas**

IRVING, Texas (BP)—An eye-witness report on the death of a young man, Billye Hamilton, a member of the Southeast Bible Church, is as follows: On June 29, 1980, I was driving home following a rain storm. I saw a man, John Dunn, a pastor of the Southeast Bible Church, Mississippi, driving a 1978 Buick Wildcat. He was president of Eastern Ministries in Irving, Texas, and sends out an average of 2,000 Bible study cassettes a week to pastors, missionaries, students, and laymen around the world. A native of New Orleans, he was married to a woman several years his senior.

Looking back

10 years ago

The seven youth conferences sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board this summer at Gulfshore Assembly in Pass Christian result in 172 decisions, including 55 professions of faith, 93 rededications, and 24 commitments to full-time Christian vocation.

20 years ago

For the first time in the history of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the million dollar mark has been passed for the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions, according to Marjean Patterson, executive director of Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union.

50 Years Ago

First Church, Pascagoula, receives recognition from the Southern Baptist Convention as the church with the most study course awards. The church received 781 awards — the only Mississippi church to place in the top 25 churches in the convention.

Mississippi students stretch faith in N.O.

By Tony Martin
Associate Editor

The Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) sponsored its first Collegiates on Mission event in New Orleans, La., on May 24-28. For some of the participants, it was a journey far outside their comfort zone.

According to Tammy Anderson, consultant with the Mississippi WMU department, this mission trip "gave our Mississippi students an opportunity to experience missions first hand, to see God use not

just their abilities, but their availability, and to nurture a missions heart that will stay with them for life."

Students participating in the event were Candice Holland, Jeff Hoskinson, Andy Lo, and Nicole Kendall, all students at Mississippi Delta Community College in Moorhead; and Alison Pannel, a student minister from McComb.

Anderson, along with the five missionaries, participated in a variety of experiences, including painting and cleaning the Baptist Friendship House, participating in the Coffee House French Quarter Ministry of Vieux Carre Church, passing out tracts, and working with the homeless at the Brantley Homeless Center.

"This trip has changed my point of view of a homeless person," said Hoskinson. "My perspective of a homeless person was someone who was dirty, had low self-esteem, and no desire to change their current lifestyle. By working at the Brantley Center, I was able to see that is not the case all the time."

"When I first got to New Orleans, I was scared about some things we were going to do," said Holland.

When Holland learned the group was going to be ministering on Bourbon Street, she told the pastor of Vieux Carre Church that she wanted to stay inside the church.



OFFERING HOPE ON BOURBON STREET — Andy Lo (right) shares a Gospel tract with an unidentified woman on Bourbon Street in New Orleans. Lo was participating in the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union Collegiates on Mission project. (BR special photo)



ON MISSION IN NEW ORLEANS — Tammy Anderson (left), consultant in the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union, joins participants in the first Collegiates on Mission Event in New Orleans which included (from left after Anderson) Candice Holland, Nicole Kendall, Jeff Hoskinson, Alison Pannel, and Andy Lo. (BR special photo)

'No Mistake' offers hospitality in retreat setting

By Tony Martin
Associate Editor

When Jerry and Cyndi Grace purchased the No Mistake Plantation near Satartia, little did they know what they'd gotten into — and that wasn't a bad thing.

They found out the original owners bought the property in 1833. According to oral tradition, the family built a large plantation house with several outbuildings. The home was allegedly burned by General Grant during the War Between the States. The existing house was built sometime in the 1840's.

The house has been updated and lovingly restored. With four bedrooms, a commercial kitchen, and ample dining and relaxation space, it is ideally suited for guests.

The grounds are blanketed in flowers and shrubbery. Peacocks roam freely, along with ducks, geese, and other wildlife. A small pond attracts other waterfowl. The effect is idyllic and soothing.

Why "No Mistake"?

"When the original purchasers saw the land, they wrote home giving the details of the property," said Jerry Grace. "The family wrote back and said it was 'no mistake' to buy it."

The Graces bought the plantation in 1997, and moved. They can accommodate groups of all sizes for meals, weddings, and other events. Shown is the main house, built circa 1840. Lavish gardens and historic outbuildings surround the home. (Photo by Tony Martin)

S. Sugar Corporation. She was serving on their local church staff. The Graces are both Mississippi natives. They moved back to the area from Clewiston, Fla.

"Our intent is to ultimately have a retreat center for churches, but we need to continue building," said Cindy Grace.

"With what we have, we can easily accommodate an overnight church staff retreat. We've already hosted several senior adult groups for meals.

"We've also had associational leadership dinners, weddings, and other groups," she said.

"We're still figuring out just exactly how we want to use it," said Cyndi Grace, "but the atmosphere and environment is not like any place else."

"We like to think of it as an escape from the ordinary," she continued. "This place had served as a bed and breakfast for some time, so a lot of what we've had to do was just update what was already here."

People in the area knew No Mistake as a daylily farm. Parts of the grounds are still covered in daylilies. Cyndi Grace is in the process ("an ongoing job," Jerry Grace says) of landscaping and replanting bedding plants. "The grounds are what make this place so special," said Cyndi Grace as she strolled about the property.

"We're taking our time in developing it," said Jerry Grace. "We're not under any pressure to finish everything at once."

"I think we're ideal for a retreat for pastors, staffs, and their wives. With so many demands on church staff, they need a time to relax and be refreshed," he stated.

Cyndi Grace agrees.

"We just want to treat folks like royalty," she said.

No Mistake Plantation is located northwest of Jackson, less than 20 miles from Yazoo City. For more information, call (662) 746-3129.



Beatty family welcomes arrival of Abigail

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Abigail Clara Beatty came into the world very early July 10 — 6 pounds, 4 ounces and 19 and a half inches of precious new life.

Her dad, cancer-stricken Southern Baptist missionary Charles Beatty, lived to see her born. In fact, he was about the only one to see it besides Mom (missionary Christy Beatty) and Grandma.

"She really surprised us," said a smiling Beatty, cradling Abigail in his arms later that day at North Kansas City Hospital.

"The baby arrived before the nurses or doctor could get in the room. I was freaking a little and yelling, 'Get in here!' and the next thing I heard was a cry.

"She's doing wonderfully. Praise the Lord I was there to see her," Beatty said.

If the Lord wills, Beatty hopes to see a lot more of Christy, Abigail, and their other three children, Amanda, 8, Alex, 4, and Ashleigh, 17 months.

He's also making plans — tentative and conditional, but plans nevertheless — to take a seminary class in the fall and to do more speaking and writing about the truths God has taught him through suffering.

The Beatys appeared in June during the International Mission Board's report at the annual Southern Baptist Convention meeting in New Orleans, where he challenged listeners to go into the world "and not wait, because we are not promised tomorrow."

The missionary couple learned last November that Abigail was on the way. The same month doctors told Beatty, now 34, that the lung cancer he had been diagnosed with in 1998 had returned after a remission and there was little they could do to stop its growth.

They predicted he would die within six to eight months. The outer limit of that deadline is in sight, but Beatty is still alive. He has good days and bad. He leans on a cane, coughs frequently, and experiences nausea and shortness of breath.

"We thought it would be a miracle if Charles lived until the baby came," said Christy.

"Not only is he here, but he looks better than he did when they said he didn't have long. The doctor has told us people who are dying of (Beatty's type of) cancer don't look like this. It's supposed to spread. We thank God for every day it doesn't," she said.

After learning of her husband's grim prognosis at the same time as her pregnancy, she experienced a range of emotions: shock, disbelief, fear.

"We knew God had brought this new life, and we knew he could see the big picture and was going to do something amazing," she said.

Instead of despairing, the Beatys took an emotional "farewell tour" in February to the country in North Africa where they had served — both to share God's love once more and to challenge others to go to the region.

"I have no goals and objectives for the future but to love and glorify my Lord, and if I'm going to be on U.S. assignment mode indefinitely, I'm going to be a force for seeing that message get out," he said.

"The doctors don't know why I'm still alive. My doctor said, 'God's got something else for you.' When I hear things like that, it helps me to keep going."

For the Beatys, the birth of Abigail is both joyful and bittersweet.

"It's hard to look at this baby and not know whether Charles is going to be here or not," Christy admitted, "but we have peace and confidence in knowing no matter what happens God is going to provide our needs."

"Our hope is that Charles is going to be healed and be a father to our children. ...God has not yet revealed what he's going to do," she said.



TRULY BLESSED EVENT — Charles Beatty (left) holds his new daughter, Abigail Clara Beatty, who was born July 10. Beatty, who was told in November that his lung cancer is terminal, and his wife Christy had prayed he would live long enough to see their new baby born. Joining Mom and Dad are their other three children, Amanda, 8, Alex, 4, and Ashleigh, 17 months. (Photo courtesy of First Church, Raytown, Mo.)

DAYLILY RELIGION

As I was traveling by a home the other day I noticed they had a huge area in their yard dedicated to growing daylilies. There are, all around the capital city and far beyond, people who just love growing daylilies.

As I looked at this one patch of blossoming flowers, I thought how, in just a matter of hours, all of these flowers will be gone — dried up — dead — no more! Just one day, and then they are gone! That's where they get their name — daylilies.

I remember, many years ago, hearing a preacher say that one of the problems we had in our churches was too many "Lilly" Baptists. Referring to that verse in the Sermon on the Mount where Jesus said, "they toil not, neither do they spin," — there may be some truth to that statement.

As I looked at this flowerbed of daylilies, I wasn't thinking in a negative sense, but I saw something in a totally different light. For one thing, I thought about how these lilies are short on time. They spring up, burst forth in radiance, and then they are gone.

While that is the life cycle of a daylily, it certainly corresponds with what the Bible teaches about us and that is that life is not very long. In fact the Bible says it is like a shadow; it is like a vapor that comes and disappears; it is like a blade of grass that is cut and so quickly withers — it is here and then it is no more!



Directions

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer
Mississippi Baptist Convention Board

While it is true of each of us, life seems to be even shorter for others of us. It is hard to forget, and personally I hope it is impossible for me to ever forget, those young people who I have known and then preached their funerals through the years — some who died as a result of various accidents; some who were lost at war; some who were young men with families; and, others were young wives just beginning their homes.

From a time standpoint, it seems so unfair and it appears as though they got short-changed. As I reflect on this truth, I cannot help but remember that such was the case with our Lord Jesus. Thirty-three years and a life so fine, brilliant, helpful, caring, and so filled with potential was over!

Then I think about the daylilies. While they are short on time, they are long on beauty. Their buds look like long tubes and then, at the appropriate time, they burst open like a trumpet and with magnificent color and delicate petals, they stand tall and radiant. They

leave an impression on your mind clearer than if they had been caught by a camera.

It should be a good reminder to us that time is not always the best measurement of life. It is, of course, our chief means of measurement, yet it leaves so much to be desired.

If I were to ask you, "Who is the oldest person who ever lived?" you would readily respond, "Methuselah!" You would be correct. Nine hundred and sixty-nine years he lived.

However, if I were to say to you, "Name one thing that Methuselah did," all of a sudden there would be many blank stares followed with, "Uh, uh, I'm not sure."

There are a few other things known about Methuselah, but most of us stop at the length of years. I can assure you, though, that I have known some people through the years — men and women, folks of various occupations, and some who have never arrived at a profession — whose lives are marked by grand deeds and a wonderful spirit.

Although you no doubt can tell me how many years Jesus

lived, the more important question that you can also readily answer is, "What did he do?" As you begin to recount the story of his love, his miracles, his compassion, and his speech, you begin to realize that he packed those few years with living to the max.

One other grand truth I draw from the daylily patch is that they stay in a constant process of reproducing to make sure that the beauty of the next day's generation of daylilies is seen.

For all of us, it is worth remembering that at best we are here for a short time. It is true, *only one life twill soon be past, only what is done for Christ will last.*

Yet, we can live, give, serve, and prepare in such a way that when our brief time here on earth serving the Lord concludes there will be standing in the wings, maybe standing along side of us, those who will carry on.

They will shine brightly, go victoriously, give graciously, and provide a beauty in the Kingdom of God that will cause people to say, "It has never been this wonderful, ever before!"

When that happens, a great host of folks who have gone ahead must sing, "To God be the glory, great things He has done."

Those who are living in the light of his grace and provisions can sing also, "God is good and he knew what he was doing, even when he made daylilies!"



The Missions Friends of Ellistown Church, Blue Springs, collected 200 cans of soup for the Union County Food Pantry.

Youth Night slated for July 27

The 2001 Mississippi Baptist Youth Night will be held from 6:30-9 p.m. on July 27 at the Mississippi Coliseum in Jackson. Admission is free and churches are encouraged to bring youth groups. Speaker will be Rick Ousley, pastor of The Church at Brook Hills in Birmingham. Worship leader will be Christian recording artist Michael John Clement. Counselor training will begin at 6:25 p.m.

"It is exciting to see the Coliseum filled with teenagers who have come to worship God, especially knowing that a large number of them will be changed for eternity," said Don Lum, chairman of the Youth Night planning committee and a consultant in the Evangelism Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. For more information, contact Lum at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3280 or toll free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 280. E-mail: dlum@mbcb.org.

Harmony Church, Brookhaven, will feature The Gospel Rhythm Masters of Bogalusa, La., on July 29. Activities include worship at 11 a.m., and fellowship luncheon followed by the concert. Clarence Young is interim pastor.

Fourteen members of Old Union Church, Shannon, recently traveled to Bombarrol, Portugal, on a mission trip. The group worked with Don and Rose Marie McCain as a part of the Central Portugal Church Planting team. They can-

vassed four towns, or villas. They distributed invitations in every mail box to a Bible study, volunteered several days of manual labor at a Christian retreat complex, and conducted Sunday services in Caldas da Rainha Church. Pictured (from left, front row) are Sanders Watson, Chad Logan, Farris Watson, Alison Barber, David Smith; (second row) Sue Spearman, Lee Ann Wilson, Keysey Logan, Amanda Whitehead; (third row) Sonny Spearman; Kenneth Kelly, pastor; Dick Williams; Sherry Kelly; Diane Wilson; and Ashley Barber.



Members of New Hope Church, Amory



Mission team from Old Union Church, Shannon

Groundbreaking services were held on May 20 at New Hope Church, Amory, for a new church building. Land was given by Horril Dahlem and his wife Celia Fay. Pictured (seated) is Horril Dahlem; (standing, from left) are Cecil Pierce; Jim Harrington, missions director, Monroe Association; Rob Sargent; Donald Kimbrough; Terry Benton, pastor; Jimmy Dahlem; and Punk Ford.

Several youth and adults from Antioch Church, Brandon, recently returned from Fort Smith, Montana. They were a part of the Northwest Mission Group and responsible for Vacation Bible School at Big Horn Church, that had an average of 30 children in attendance. Mac Cole is pastor of Horn Lake.

NOBTS confers doctoral degrees

Four students with doctoral degrees from New Orleans Seminary during commencement exercises in May.



Nance, Kelley, Cannon, Cummings, and Taylor

Standing with President Charles S. Kelley, Jr. (second left), are Danny Nance of Picayune, pastor of First Church, Nicholson; Daniel Cannon of Jackson, pastor of First Church, Crystal Springs; Ray Cummings of Hattiesburg, pastor of Providence Church, Hattiesburg; and John Francis Taylor of Columbus, pastor of Hillcrest Church, Jackson.

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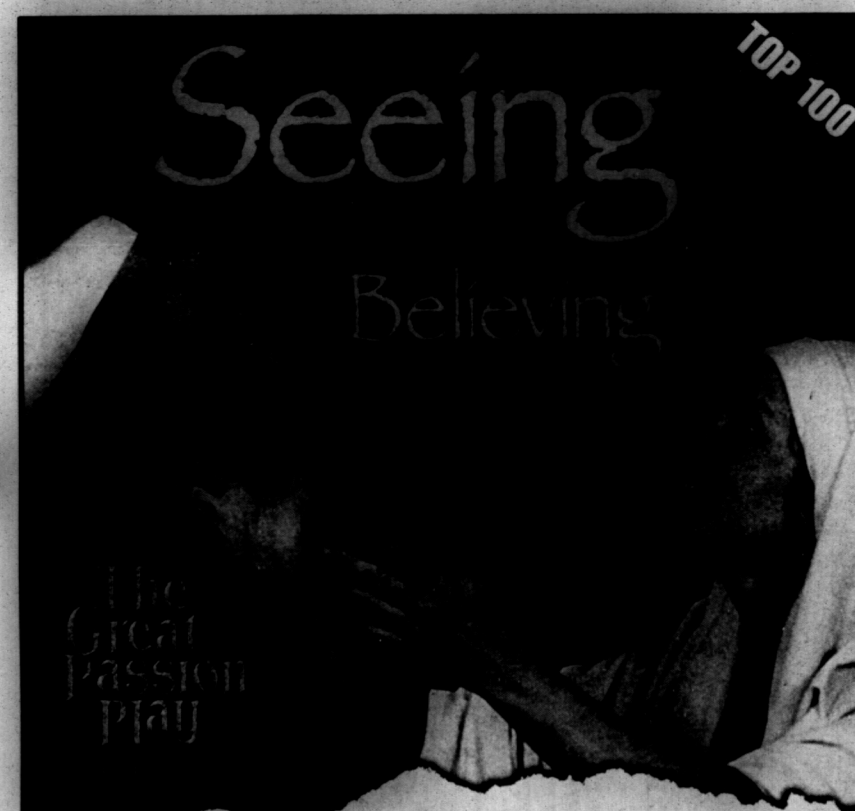
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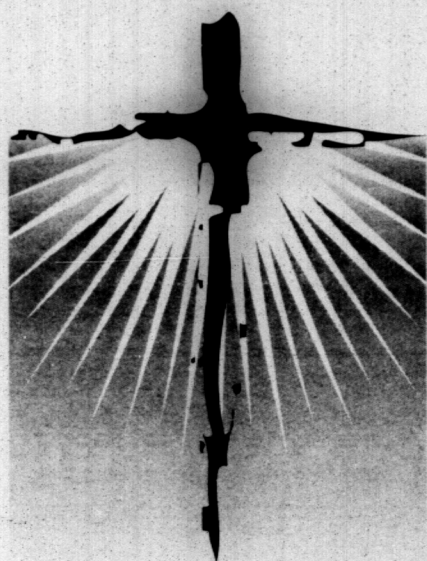
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MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST

Partnership Missions

SUMMER 2001



VOL. II, NO. 2

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Please Note 2001 Partnership Missions Celebration

Banquet
November 9
6:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church
Fellowship Hall East
Jackson
Cost: \$10 per person

Conferences
November 10
7:30 - noon
Baptist Building
Sky Room
Jackson

"The blind receive sight...the deaf hear!"

By Jerry Owen, Partnership Missions
team leader to Ukraine

In May 2001, our five-member team arrived in Razdelnaia, Ukraine, full of hope and the expectancy of seeing God perform miraculous wonders. The team consisted of Sam Massey, physician, and Misty Vance, nurse, who provided medical care to nearly 400 people in our medical clinic; Susie May and Peggy Hemphill, who dispensed 580 pairs of reading glasses and shared the Gospel with waiting patients; and myself, a pharmacist and preacher.

Our home church, Cleary Church in Florence, saturated our work with prayer each day while we were in Ukraine. What did God do? God restored sight to eyes that had grown dim. Each day dear, sweet, elderly men and women flocked to our optical room in hopes of being able to see better.

One 80-year-old woman gasped when she tried on a pair of glasses and looked down at her Bible. She rose and grabbed May and Hemphill hugging and kissing them over and over again. Through her tears she gave thanks to God saying, "For the first time in 20 years I can now read my Bible."

God also restored hearing to an Ukrainian schoolteacher. Peggy had an

opportunity to share the Gospel with this woman while she was waiting to see the doctor. After she prayed and asked Jesus into her heart, Peggy prayed with her that God would show her how real he is by somehow providing her with a hearing aid, which she needed.

While examining her, Massey, who also is hearing impaired, noticed the woman's hearing loss and God brought to mind that he might have a spare hearing aid. In his bag, he found a spare hearing aid that had been all over the world with him on previous trips. He had even forgotten he had it until that moment.

Along with treating nearly 400 patients, our medical team also performed eight surgical procedures. Most were the removal of large cysts and lipomas.

One 11-year-old girl, though, came in with a bullet in her head that had been there for two years. Twice surgeons had attempted to remove it without success. Her mother was ready to put her faith in God and her confidence in Massey. With less than favorable conditions under which to work, Massey prayed that God would guide his instrument to help him find that hidden piece of lead. Within a short time the bullet was out and everyone gave thanks to God.

This was my third trip to Razdelnaia

and I have truly seen God do wondrous things. On this trip we saw sight restored, hearing improved, and God's healing touch to unhealthy bodies. A few months back I saw evidence of God's ultimate healing that awaits all believers. I had an opportunity to share the Gospel with a 16-year-old girl named Tanya. She listened with four friends who made fun of me while I spoke of Jesus Christ.

God was stirring Tanya's heart and after learning how she could be saved, she wanted to give her heart to Christ. Her friends teased and ridiculed her for 20 minutes.

Then I witnessed the boldest thing I have ever seen. Tanya prayed to receive Jesus as the crowd made fun of her. I was moved to tears by the courage this young lady displayed in the face of persecution.

I returned 10 weeks later and was told about a 16-year-old girl named Tanya who unexpectedly died in her sleep of an aneurism about two weeks after my previous trip. I sat there stunned, but I thanked God for her courage.

Tanya is in heaven now and I believe if she could speak to us today, she would say, "Come to Ukraine and share Jesus with my friends and family." The question is "Do you have the courage to answer God's call?"

Deaf school in Honduras in need of supplies

Listed below are needs for the September 15-21, 2001, mission trip to School for the Deaf in Tegucigalpa led by Hilda McGee. The school has approximately 300 children.

- Otoscope
- Blood pressure cuff (children's size)
- Liquid to make "ear molds"
- First aid kit for small injuries, cuts and bruises
- Hearing aids with extra batteries (for children)
- Ear flushing kits
- All types of pencils and erasers

- Notebooks, coloring books and crayons
- Scissors and plastic rulers
- Watercolors
- Toothbrushes
- Small gold and silver stars (stick-on type)
- Human body parts toys to learn anatomy
- Alphabet blocks

Contact Dr. Hilda McGee by E-mail, Hilda McGee@aol.com, or phone (601)544-1794 if you are interested in providing some of these supplies.



A volunteer gives a checkup to a Honduran child at the School for the Deaf in Tegucigalpa. (Photo by Hilda McGee)

On mission — God at work

The impact Mississippi Baptists are making in the Northeast is evident.

*-Ken Rhodes, director
MBCB Partnership
Missions Department*

The third annual Impact Northeast Summit was held at the Carson Springs Conference Center in Carson Springs, Tennessee on June 21-22. The impact Mississippi Baptists are making in the Northeast is evident.

I offer my thanks to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board staff who attended the summit to represent our intent of continuing to be a vital part of this bold missions experience through 2007.

Each of the following made invaluable contributions: Jim Futral, David Michel, Ken Lyle, Tom Prather, Jerry Merriman, Ed Deuschle, and Matt Buckles.

Impact Northeast will continue to focus upon four critical areas — new church starts, collegiate ministries,

revitalization, and leadership development. Within each of these areas there is an opportunity for every Mississippi Baptist church to be on mission in the Northeast.

As you plan for 2002 North American mission experiences, we would love to have the opportunity to assist you with a connection to unbelievable possibilities. As you make an impact upon the Northeast states you are literally connecting with the world.

Your staff in the Partnership Missions Department wants to

assist you in mobilizing your people in volunteer missions. Our dream is to see every Mississippi Baptist have North American and international missions experiences.

We also encourage your wholehearted support of our convention's strategic missions opportunities led by Ed Deuschle. Folks from the Northeast are desiring to partner with us in reaching Mississippi.

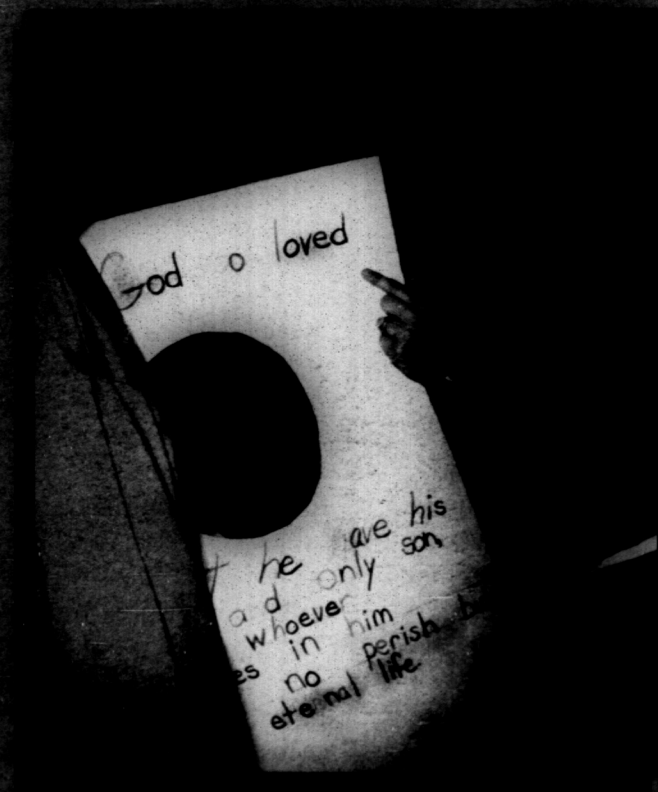
The beauty of both the Impact Northeast and the Maryland/Delaware relationship is our partnering to reach Mississippi and the world for Jesus.



Baltimore comes to Crystal Springs

*By Tim Nicholas, consultant,
Communication Services*

A missions partnership brought Patterson Park Church, Baltimore, to Crystal Springs, where First Baptist Church planned the annual Bible Camp in June. In photo at right, Patterson Park Church pastor, Rev. George Smith, and his wife, Mary, are seen with a group of Baltimore children. In photo below left, a Baltimore pastor leads a child in a "prayer" with his feet during craft time. In photo below right, James Brown, 10, (with permission of Patterson Park Church) helps the children with crafts. More missions trip exchanges are planned. (Photos by Tim Nicholas)



Volunteers assist churches in Md./Del. Convention

*By Paul Harrell, partnership coordinator for
Maryland/Delaware*

God is calling out many mission volunteers from our state. A large number of these volunteers are participating in our partnership with Maryland/Delaware. We know of 45 projects that have been or will be in Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware this year.

Some will assist in new church starts using revival teams, Vacation-Bible School activities, Backyard Bible Clubs, youth ministries, construction, Bible conferences, surveys, and other outreach evangelistic activities. Twenty-one summer student missionaries are serving during these summer months.

Mississippi Baptists provided \$100,000 in the year 2000 and an additional \$100,000 in 2001 to help eight new church starts have a church planter on location.

John Willis, planter/pastor of Iron Hill Community Church in Bear, Delaware, meets in a rented facility. He shared these words of testimony following Easter Sunday:

"We have averaged 60 or so the last month, which is great. This week we had 169, many of whom said they were definitely coming back. We are now in a serious state of needing a larger facility. Please pray that we find something soon." Willis' work is a contemporary, purpose-driven church model in a growing part of suburban Newark, Delaware.

Mississippi Baptists are responding to requests for assistance in church revitalization. These are churches that have plateaued or are declining. Volunteer teams consisting of two to three persons are assigned to these churches to help provide a jump-start.

If God is leading you to participate in partnership missions, there is a place for you or your group in the Maryland/Delaware Partnership.



Two leaders with one heart impact Northeast

By Ken Lyle, consultant, Partnership Missions Department

Once a month, teenagers from Baptist churches in Clarke County meet together for roller skating and fellowship. The evening's activities include a time for presenting the Good News of God and taking up an offering for a new church in Massachusetts.

The offering began after Grady Crowell, missions director for Clarke Association, traveled to Boston on a Partnership Missions Vision Tour.

There, Crowell met Dick May, pastor of the Evangelical Baptist Teaching and Worship Center, in Winthrop. Though these two followers of Christ had vastly different backgrounds—Crowell, a rural man with the melodic drawl of the deep South, and May, an urban man with the chopped, swift accent of a native Southerner—they knew instantly that they were brothers in Christ.

As the friendship grew, God led Crowell to challenge the skating teens to support the fledgling fellowship led by May.

A few weeks ago, I shared a vision of worship and teaching with May and his flock. It was obvious that God was working in the midst of this young church. That Sunday morning, three adults decided to follow Christ and pursue a new mission.

May shared me that the church was preparing to assist a young woman in Clarke County. Her newborn infant had a need of immediate medical attention. Doctors chosen to perform the surgery were in Boston.

The Evangelical Baptist Teaching and Worship Center is eager to provide support and support for this family. Such support ensures an authentic and fruitful partnership.

Churchmen perform in Ukraine

By Tim Nicholas
Consultant
Broadcast Services

The Mississippi Singing Churchmen sang before more than 6,000 Ukrainians during a mission trip to the Odessa area, May 24-June 5.

Jim Futral, executive director-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) joined a total of 20 singers, director Milfred Valentine, and accompanist Slater Murphy on the trip.

Futral preached and introduced the music while the group performed in a philharmonic hall, a cinema, outdoors in a square, for a seminary graduation, and in a number of churches. In addition, the group sang at the Odessa airport and in hotels.



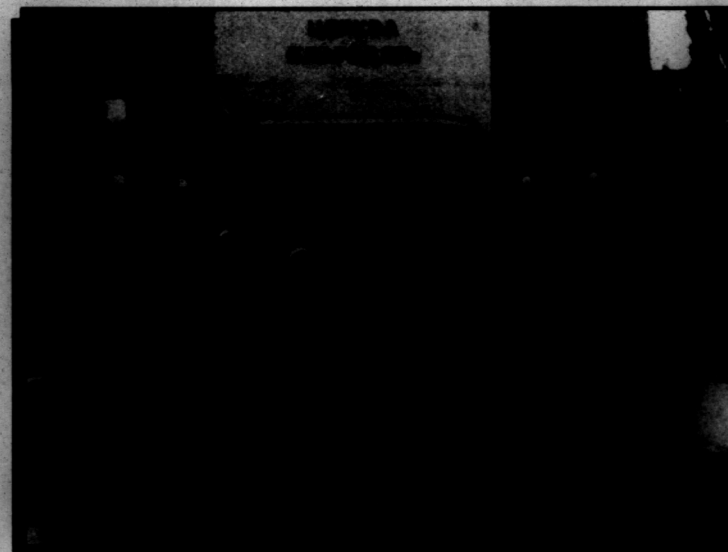
Milfred Valentine of Ellisville leads the Mississippi Singing Churchmen in a concert at a packed out Belgrade Dnistrosky Baptist Church in Ukraine. (Photo by Jimmy McCaleb)

Many listeners were non-believers. "At least 27 decisions for Christ were recorded and doors were opened for follow-up work," said Graham Smith, church music department director.

"It has been said that music is the universal language and this experience certainly proved it again," Smith added.

The group closed all worship services singing "How Great Thou Art," *Kak Tee Veh Leek* in Russian. That was one of four songs the Singing Churchmen learned to sing in Russian.

"What an overwhelming spiritual blessing," said Smith.



The Mississippi Singing Churchmen pose in front of Grace Church in Odessa, Ukraine. (Photo by Jimmy McCaleb)

At least 27 decisions for Christ were recorded and doors were opened for follow-up work.

-L. Graham Smith
director, MBCB,
Church Music
Department

Projects tailor-made for collegians and recent grads

By Clay Moss, consultant, Partnership Missions Department

Exciting things are brewing in the 10/40 Window missions pot for 2002. These



A proud Muslim father delights in having a picture taken of his daughters. (Photo by Kay Cassibry)

are areas of the world where traditional missionary work is not possible.

Many of the missions projects on the drawing board are tailor-made for college students and recent graduates. We are looking for summer missionaries as well as those who are being led of the Lord to get involved for longer terms.

Because of the sensitive nature of many projects, we cannot provide much detail in this article. However, I can say that our participants will be involved in some of the most exciting and cutting edge missions ministry ever developed by the International Mission Board.

You do not have to be a Baptist Student Union participant to become a part of what God is doing through Southern Baptists in the 10/40 Window.

If you are interested in more details, please contact me in the Partnership Missions Department, P.O. Box 530,

Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601)292-3398 or toll free outside Jackson (800)748-1651. E-Mail: cmoss@mbcb.org.

Also, we want to remind everyone of the opportunity to participate in an exciting prayer walk in central Asia, Oct. 5-15, 2001. The total cost of the trip will be \$1,250 which includes airfare and accommodations. We can guarantee this price up to July 1. It is still possible to sign up after July 1, but we are not sure what the cost will be.

Trip details cannot be spelled out publicly, but if you are interested in more information, please contact us.



A Muslim woman in traditional dress. (Photo by Kay Cassibry)

10/40 Window



First Russian-speaking protestant school opens in former USSR



Odessa Theological Seminary, located in Odessa, Ukraine.

Odessa Theological Seminary in Ukraine is the first Russian-speaking protestant school in the former Soviet Union. Founded in August of 1989, the seminary has trained more than 500 men and women in ministry and is a vital link in church planting efforts throughout the country.

Today 220 students attend. The academic programs available are: Bachelor of

Theology, Bachelor of Pastoral Ministry, Diploma in Preaching, Diploma in Evangelism, Diploma in Ethnic Minorities, Diploma in Christian Education, and Certificate in Choir Directing.

Many of you have visited or worked through the Odessa Seminary. A critical need exists in that the Seminary will not be allowed to open as of Sept. 1, 2001, without

completing the kitchen facility. The cost is \$128,500.

Pray regarding how this most critical need can be provided. The seminary is critical to the continued expansion of church growth in Ukraine.

Contact the Partnership Missions Department to find out how you can help with the kitchen project.

Ukraine/Honduras Short-term Mission Trip Opportunities

UPCOMING TRIPS TO UKRAINE

July 20-29 — Women's Ministry Conference — Odessa, Project
#PM3-2001-710. Deadline is May 18, 2001. Team leader: Rebecca Williams, 824 Graveline Road, Gautier, MS 39553; Phone: (228) 497-5141 (H); E-mail: brwill@datasync.com

July 27-August 5 — VBS (3 teams of 5 each) — Odessa, Project
#PM3-2001-711. Deadline is May 25, 2001. Team leader: Ann Stone (Area 4), Route 1, Box 359, Mantee, MS 39751; Phone: (662) 456-4440; E-mail: samandann1970@aol.com

July 27-August 5 — New Church Start — Kodema, Project
#PM3-2001-712. Deadline is May 25, 2001. Team leader: David Patterson (Area 7), P. O. Box 1434, Hazlehurst, MS 39083-1434; Phone: (601) 894-1776 (O), (601) 894-2513 (H); E-mail: pdavid277@aol.com

August 4-16 — New Church Start — Lubashevka, Project
#PM3-2001-713. Deadline is June 1, 2001. Team leader: Joe Anderson (Area 3), P. O. Box 274, Boyle, MS 38730; Phone: (662) 843-4405 (O/H).

August 4-14 — New Church Start — Savron, Project
#PM3-2001-713AB. Deadline is June 1, 2001. Team leader: Ken Anderson (Area 5), P. O. Box 65, Clinton, MS 39060-0065; Phone (601) 924-9912 (O); E-mail: parkway2@meta3.net

August 18-28 — Construction — Odessa, Project #PM3-2001-715.
Deadline is June 15, 2001. Team leader: Paul McGehee (Area 1), 116 Briarwood Drive, Senatobia, MS 38668; Phone: (662) 562-4541 (O); (662) 562-4268 (H); E-mail: mcgehee@gmi.net

August 18-28 — New Church Start — Kotovsk, Project #PM3-2001-721.
Deadline is June 15, 2001. Team leader: Jerry Owen (Area 4), 2167 Cleary Road, Florence, MS 39073-8848; Phone: (601) 355-2438 (O); (601) 845-3689 (H); E-mail: witness4him1@juno.com

August 30-September 11 — New Church Start — Balta, Project #PM3-2001-716.
Deadline is June 28, 2001. Team leader: John Perkins (Area 1), P. O. Box 381, Hernando, MS 38632; Phone: (662) 429-5033 (O), (662) 429-3387 (H); E-mail: nwbapt@bellsouth.net

August 31-September 8 — Pastors Conference — Odessa Region, Project #PM3-2001-717.
Deadline is June 29, 2001. Team leader: Ken Lyle (Area 5), P. O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205; Phone: (800) 748-1651, ext. 398 (in state); (601) 292-3398 (out of state); (601) 924-9016 (H); E-mail address: knjlyle103@aol.com

September 21-October 2 — New Church Start — Nikolaevka, Project #PM3-2001 719.
Deadline: July 21, 2001. Team leader: Kiely Young (Area 9), P. O. Box 10254, Gulfport, MS 3950; (228) 831-9236 (H); (228) 832-1709 (O); E-mail: yg.ent@mciworld.com

October 5-14 — Medical Team — Odessa Region, Project #PM3-2001-720.
Deadline is August 3, 2001. Team leader: Norman Bailey (Area 8), 307 Jackson Road, Hattiesburg, MS 39402; Phone: (601) 544-1794 (O); (601) 268-2668 (H); E-mail: nlb021752@aol.com

UPCOMING TRIPS TO HONDURAS/TEGUCIGALPA

Medical/Dental teams

July 27-Aug. 3 — Joel Laird, 607 Hillyer High Road, Anniston, AL 36207, (256) 238-6134 (H); E-mail: AuntBhaven@aol.com

Aug. 25-Sept. 1 — Mike Carder, 5818 Rocky Branch Road, Signal Mountain, TN 37377-1338; Phone: (423) 886-6646 (H); (423) 559-3000 (O); Red Bank Baptist Church, Chattanooga, TN; E-mail: mcarder@juno.com

Sept. 6-13 — Catha Duck, 126 Phanturn Lane, Bellaire, TX 77401; Phone: (713) 957-7686 (O); (713) 443-5236 (cell); E-mail: cathaduck@hfbc.org; First Baptist Church, 7401 Katy Freeway, Houston, TX 77024

Sept. 15-22 — Dr. Hilda McGee, Temple Baptist Church, 1508 Hardy Street, Hattiesburg, MS 39401; (601) 544-1794 (Church Office)

Sept. 22-29 — Tonya Smith, 160 Hickory Drive, Ringgold, GA 30736; (706) 965-8636, E-mail: Wrght21@cs.com. Gene Baker, 155 Jessie Lane, Charleston, TN 37310, (423) 476-7449 (H); (423) 479-3784 (O); E-mail: gbaker6@juno.com

Oct. 12-19 — Fruitful Harvest Missions, Charlie Sickles, 409 W. California, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482; (903) 885-1424 (H); E-mail: sickles@neto.com

UPCOMING TRIPS TO HONDURAS/La CEIBA

July 28-Aug. 4 — Construction/Evangelistic
Reggie Quimby, Alabama Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 11870, Montgomery AL 36111-0870; (800) 264-1225, ext. 239; (334) 288-2693 (FAX); E-mail: rquimby@alsbom.org.
Bob Ledlow, team leader, Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, 2864 South Brannon Stand Road, Dothan, AL 36305; (334) 677-6388 (H); (334) 792-4842 (O); (334) 702-0584 (FAX); E-mail: sunrisebob@aol.com

Aug. 31-Sept. 7 — Medical/Dental
Steve Long, 4008 Belhaven Forest, Gastonia, NC 28056; (704) 865-9622 (H); (704) 865-4422 (FAX); atlong@concentric.net

Sept. 29-Oct. 6 — Construction/Medical
Buddy Day, Louisiana Baptist Convention, P.O. Box 311, Alexandria, LA 71303; (318) 448-3402 (O); (318) 445-0055 (FAX); E-mail: buddy@lbc.org

Oct. 13-20 — Construction/Evangelistic
Reggie Quimby, Alabama Baptist State Convention, P.O. Box 11870, Montgomery, AL 36111-1870; (800) 264-1225, ext. 239; (334) 288-2693 (FAX); E-mail: rquimby@alsbom.org
Kim Waldrop, team leader, 13646 Cranberry Drive, Northport, AL 35475; (205) 333-1152; E-mail: aldrop@dbtech.net

The total cost per person for Honduras trips is \$900 which covers roundtrip airfare from New Orleans, food, lodging, exit tax, and transportation in Honduras.

Mississippi Baptist Partnership Missions is a supplement to The Baptist Record produced by the Communications Services of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. Contact Partnership Missions about future mission opportunities. P.O. Box 530 Jackson, MS 39205-0530 (800) 748-1651, ext. 398 (601) 292-3398 krhodes@mbcb.org



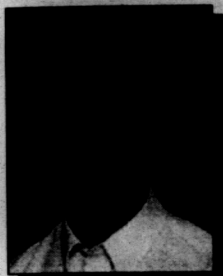
NAMES IN THE NEWS

Jim Thrash, pastor of Perkinson Church, Gulf Coast Association, received the doctor of ministry degree on May 18 from Luther Rice Seminary. He is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary.



Thrash

Harold Spencer Turner, a recent graduate of Southern Seminary with a master's degree in church music, is looking forward to serving the Lord as minister of music. He was ordained by his home church, First Church, Water Valley, in 1996,



Turner



Aldridge and Armstrong

and served as minister of music in Vaiden Church and several churches in Kentucky while attending seminary. He is also a graduate of Delta State University. Turner can be reached at (662) 473-4058 or by email @ hstsaxx@aol.com.

Derma Church, Derma, ordained Kenneth Armstrong to the ministry on June 10. Armstrong is serving as pastor of College Hill Church, Vardaman. Pictured (from left) are Chris Aldridge, pastor; and Armstrong.

Delta Church, Yazoo, held an ordination service on June 16 for Luke Edwards. He has been called as pastor to First Church of Louise. Edwards had previously been the youth minister at Delta Church. Pictured (from left) are James Tucker, pastor; and Edwards.



Tucker and Edwards



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Worship Conf. scheduled for August 3

The 2001 State Worship Conference entitled, Building on Our Heritage... Open to God's Inspiration, will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on August 3 at the Baptist Building in Jackson. The conference, sponsored by the Church Music Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB), will feature Sally Morgenthaler and Terry York. Morgenthaler is the on-site worship consultant for Denver Seminary and Pathways Church, both in Denver. She is the author of *Worship Evangelism: Inviting Unbelievers Into the Presence of God*.

York is director of the doctor of ministry program at Truett Seminary in Waco, Texas, where he teaches courses in worship and ministry. He also teaches hymnology in the school of music at Baylor University in Waco. York served as project coordinator for the production of *The Baptist Hymnal*, 1991. Five of his hymns are included in the hymnal.

Registration fee of \$20 includes conference costs, book, and lunch. Deadline for registration is July 27. For a registration form or for more information, contact Patsy Alford in the MBCB Church Music Department at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 292-3267 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 748-1651, ext. 267. E-mail: palford@mbcb.org. The State Worship Conference is a ministry of the Mississippi Cooperative Program.



BMC Respect workshop participants

Blue Mountain College (BMC) MAE-SP hosted a Respect workshop at Blue Mountain elementary school in May. The program targeted third and fourth grade students and included activities which required students to work together to accomplish goals. BMC students distributed two books to each child and encouraged them to continue reading. The BMC MAE-SP applied for a CLASS (Community Learning through America's schools) Grant from the National Education Association to fund the workshop. Students participating in the workshop included: LaToya Gibbs of Blue Mountain, Dawn Stroupe of Dumas, Nicole Booth of Myrtle, Sonya McVey of Blue Springs, Kristy Camp of Amory, Heather Carpenter of Dumas, Rheta West of New Albany, Laura Reedy of New Albany, and Regina Patterson of Tupelo.

Mississippi College Office of Continuing Education will offer the LSAT Review Course for Oct. 6 test date beginning Sept. 27. The registration deadline is Sept. 21. The review will cost \$195 which includes two LSAT exams with answers and explanations for each section. The course schedule is as follows: Thurs., Sept. 27, 6-10 p.m.; Sat., Sept. 29, 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.; Tues., Oct. 2, 6-10 p.m.; and Thurs., Oct. 4, 6-10 p.m. For more information, call Carole Moore at (601) 925-3265, or e-mail at continuing-ed@mc.edu.

VBS DATES AND RESULTS

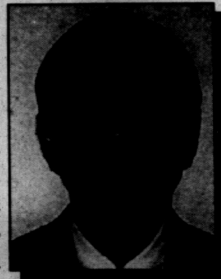
Pine Grove, Picayune: held VBS on June 18-22 with an enrollment of 166. There were 12 professions of faith.

Gunter Road, Florence:

July 22-25; 6-8 p.m.; Gene Jordan, pastor.

Springdale, West: July 30-Aug. 3; 8:30-11:30 a.m.; ages three through 6th grade; Mark Wicker is pastor.

Mississippi College (MC) professor, William Wheeler, has received the honor of being elected president-elect of the American Mental Health Counselors Association (AMHCA).



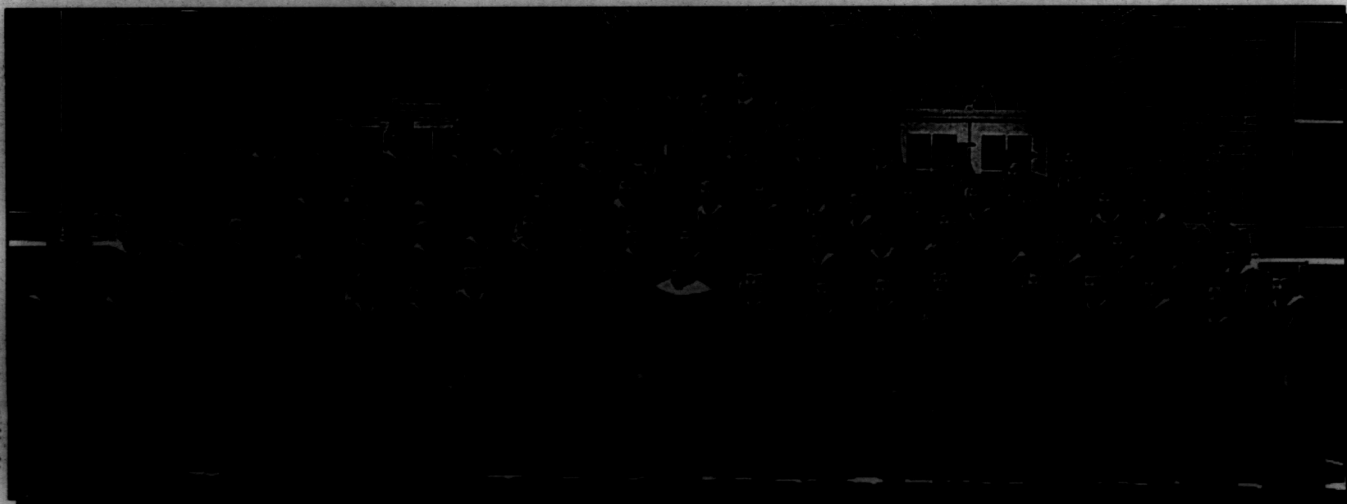
Wheeler

The mission of the AMHCA is to enhance the profession of mental health counseling through licensing, advocacy, education, and professional development. Wheeler, who has served the last 12 years as Chair of the Psychology/Counseling Department, is also a Licensed Professional Counselor doing therapy in the MC Scott Counseling Clinic.

Connie Roberts, associate professor of music in the Winters School of Music at William Carey College, has

been named Mississippi state governor for the Mississippi chapter of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. The board of a three-state region (Mississippi, Arkansas, and Louisiana) confirmed the appointment at its annual meeting held recently in Monroe, La. Roberts has just completed two consecutive terms as state president of the Mississippi chapter.

Blue Mountain College (BMC) held commencement exercises for its 128th annual session on May 6. One hundred graduates were awarded the bachelor's degree. The speakers were Jimmy D. Porter, executive director-treasurer of the Christian Action Commission, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, and Bettye R. Coward, president-elect of BMC. During the program Dean William Washburn was awarded the honorary degree of doctor of humanities.



2001 BMC graduates

HOMECOMINGS

Crooked Creek, Silver Creek: Aug. 5; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; covered dish lunch followed by music with the In His Honor trio; Jimmy Jones, pastor.

County Line, Dossville: July 29; James Burrell, pastor, message; Larry Burchfield, music; lunch following morning services.

Antioch Church, Brandon: July 22; 11 a.m. service followed with dinner on the grounds. David Waits is pastor.

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VBS participants Pine Grove Church, Picayune

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FULL-TIME MINISTER OF PRESCHOOL for First Baptist Church, Madison. Send resume to P.O. Box 400, Madison, MS 39130, ATTN: Terry; or e-mail tmartinaz@fbcmadison.org.

PART-TIME MINISTER OF MUSIC, Panola County. Send resume to: Search Committee, First Baptist Church, 108 West Lee Street, Sardis, MS 38666.

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THANKS, MISS. BAPTISTS

Editor:

We have been Mississippi Baptists for a number of years, growing up in Mississippi churches, actively involved in Baptist Student Union at Mississippi State University and Mississippi College, and ministering in various Mississippi Baptist churches. Since August 1999, we have been pursuing the master of divinity degree at Southwestern Seminary.

This seminary experience has been financially supported by Mississippi Baptists, The Mississippi Baptist Foundation, and the James M. and Luvie Thomas Foundation. Thank you, Mississippi Baptists, for supporting your ministers in this preparatory step in ministry.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to focus on this education, thereby completing a three-year program in only two years. We will be forever grateful and indebted to you for investing in the ministry God

will accomplish through us.

On behalf of Mississippi seminary students, please accept our gratitude for your assistance with our education and your contribution to our future ministries.

Dan & Nicki (Burns) Glenn
Fort Worth, Texas

SHARE MEMORIES

Editor:

The historical committee of Tylertown Church, Tylertown, in preparation for the centennial birthday of the church in 2002, is now updating A History of Tylertown Baptist Church 1902 - 1981, which was written by C.B. Hamlet III of Hattiesburg in 1982. You are invited to share your memory of the church for inclusion in the update of the church history now being prepared by the Church's Historical Committee.

You do not have to be 60, 70, or older to have a memory worthy of inclusion in the history.

Parents are urged to help their children develop a memory. You also might repeat a memory that was told to you by a parent.

You are encouraged to put your memory on paper, but the historical committee will be glad to assist you.

Contact Louis Conerly, 425 Broad Street, Tylertown, MS, 39667. Telephone: (601) 876-6131, or email conerlyl@aol.com to provide your memory.

Louis Conerly
Tylertown

PRIVILEGE TO SERVE

Editor:

I want to say thank you to Mississippi Baptists for allowing me the privilege of serving with you over the past 13 years. I have many precious memories of serving with you. While in Mississippi I was blessed to serve some great churches as pastor. While serving in Mississippi we made many life-long friends. Continue to pray for us as we

will continue to pray for you.

I want to say thank you to those who prayed, encouraged, supported us financially, and helped us try to relocate after we were dismissed by a sister church. I especially want to thank Clarence Cooper and the Emmanuel Church, Grenada. You took us in, loved us, ministered to us, and made us feel like a part. God used you, greatly, in our healing process. To Mississippi Baptists, we will forever be in your debt.

Praise God! In his time, God has healed us emotionally and spiritually. God has opened a door of ministry for us. I am now the pastor of First Church, Crowell, Texas. Blessed be the name of the Lord.

We want to keep in touch with our friends in Mississippi. Please write us and call us from time to time at P. O. Box 179, Crowell, TX 79227. Telephone: (940) 684-1848.

Rick Burton
Crowell, Texas

SUPPORT MCFM

Editor:

My family and I have served the past ten years with the International Mission Board (IMB) of the Southern Baptist Convention, primarily in Guatemala (most recently among the K'ekchi' people). As we come to the end of our present stateside assignment (furlough), I would like to publicly thank a very special missionary support ministry in Mississippi.

The Macedonian Call Foundation of Mississippi (MCFM) is an organization of unpaid volunteers that provides safe and reliable transportation for IMB missionaries while they are on furlough in the United States. Because of the MCFM, we were able to travel and share the Good News of what God is doing in Guatemala.

We greatly appreciate this organization and encourage all Mississippi Baptists to support this ministry. As with missionaries, the most powerful thing that one can do is to pray for this ministry on a regular basis. The second need is for financial or vehicle donations to the MCFM. All fund donations are tax deductible.

The MCFM address is Macedonian Call Foundation: P. O. Box 156, Ridgeland, MS 39158.

Al Bailey
Ripley

REVIVAL DATES

Black Jack, Vaughan: July 22-25; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Hal Kitchings, evangelist; Rick Greene, music.

Calvary, Forest: July 22-25; 7 p.m.; Randall Creel, Lake, evangelist; Sheila Jones and Evelyn Sims, Walnut Grove, music; Martin Williams, pastor.

First, Lauderdale: July 29-Aug. 1; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jimmy Porter, executive director-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Christian Action Commission, evangelist; Dale and Ann Coody, music; Jerry Bishop, pastor.

Antioch, Brandon: July 22-27; Sunday, 6 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Morris Wolf, Lakeshore Church, Brandon, evangelist; Curtis Carter, Meadow Grove Church, music; David Waits, pastor.

Learned (Metro): Aug. 3-5; Fri. and Sat., 7 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m., followed with fellowship meal, and 6 p.m.; Jack Gregory, evangelist; Rocky Holston, pastor.

Anding, Bentonia: July 22-25; Sunday, 11 a.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Andy May, evangelist; Glenn Martin, music; Joe K. Hill, pastor.

Macedonia (Lee): July 22-27; Sunday, 6:45 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Bobby Burt, pastor of Auburn Church, Tupelo, evangelist; Dwight Brown, pastor; Billy Little, music director.

East Fork (Amite): July 22-27; Sunday services, 11 a.m. followed by dinner on the grounds; Mon.-Fri. services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Sonny Adkins, evangelist; Ken Hall, music; Paul G. Cain, pastor.

New Hope (Pontotoc): July 21-27; church-wide fellowship Saturday, 6 p.m.; Sunday, Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; discipleship training, 5:30 p.m.; worship, 6:30 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Jeff Harmon, evangelist; Winston Ross, pastor.

Calvary, Columbus: July 22-25; Sunday, 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Clay Hallmark, Marion, Ark., evangelist; Bobby Sanderson, Columbus, music; Roy D. Hawkins, pastor.

Ludlow (Scott): July 22-27; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; lunch in Family Life Center, noon; and 1:15 p.m. service; Mon.-Fri., 7 p.m.; Bobby Waggoner, evangelist; Susie Herring, music; M. L. Wallace, pastor.

January Bible Study Preview Clinic

First Baptist Church • Jackson
September 25, 2001 • 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Refreshments will be served in the morning.
A complimentary lunch will be served at noon.
No registration is necessary.

WAYNE VANHORN –

pastor of First Baptist Church, Columbia, will lead the adult study. The adult January Bible Study book is entitled *What's Life All About? – Foundations for the Biblical Worldview Genesis 1-12*, written by Allan Moseley.

DANIEL CALDWELL –

dean of the Cooper School of Biblical Studies, William Carey College, will lead the youth leaders. The youth January Bible Study book is entitled *Blueprints: Studies from Genesis*, written by Kim Henderson.

For more information contact the Sunday School Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board by writing P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205, calling (800) 748-1651 ext. 295 or (601) 292-3295 or e-mailing mlott@mbcb.org.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Unsigned letters will not be printed. No multi-copy or form letters will be used.

Each correspondent must include an address and telephone number for verification. In special instances, name may be withheld at writer's request and editor's discretion.

Please include the name of cooperating Mississippi Baptist church where correspondent is a member. (Mississippi Baptists' letters will receive priority when space is limited.)

Letters must be limited to 250 words. All correspondence is subject to editing.

Correspondents should refrain from personal attacks. The opinions expressed in letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

No more than one letter from any individual will be printed during a three-month period.

When in the judgement of the editor a given issue has received sufficient attention, correspondence dealing with it will no longer be published and a notice will be printed to that effect.

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FAMILY BIBLE STUDY

Learning from the risen Lord

Luke 24:13-35

By Kathy Mord Alford

Is there a brilliant debater among you? Does he like to hear himself talk? Does he have the gift of persuasion?

If the world regards him as wise, God makes him look foolish and shows his wisdom to be utter nonsense. Without the presence of God in his life, his wisdom perishes and his intelligence vanishes.

Debates are foolish and arguments futile when we exclude God. Do we sit in his house and listen to his Word, perhaps even voicing prayers?

We can be exposed to the things of God, yet not allow them to penetrate our hearts. How is that possible? Simply put, we say we know (*ginosko*) God, but we don't really know

(*epiginosko*) him at all.

Ginosko is a rather abstract knowledge that defines reality using intelligence.

"Now I know in part . . ." (1 Cor. 13:12).

Epiginosko, on the other hand, participates in the object known and unites the know-er with the one who is known (Vine's Expository Dictionary).

"Knowledge of God is based on a personal encounter with God through his historic acts and his [Scripture]. To know God [and his spiritual truth], one must perceive truth about God, let that truth shape one's understanding of life, and respond appropriately with faith and obedience" (Zondervan Expository Dictionary). "...But then I shall know fully just as I



Alford

also have been fully known" (1 Cor. 13:12b).

The disciples who were walking to Emmaus knew (*ginosko*) Jesus. They had heard his teaching, witnessed miracles by his hand, and walked by his side.

They had heard him speak Scripture and claim that he fulfilled Messianic prophecies that were made hundreds of years ago. They acknowledged that he was a prophet because he proved it by the things he did and said. Yet, in all their encounters with Jesus, they did not respond with faith to the truth of his identity as Lord. If they had, would they have left Jerusalem after hearing reports that Jesus had risen from his grave?

The disciples' discussion between themselves on the Emmaus road was based on human logic and reality, not on God's Word and truth. Thus, they did not recognize Jesus,

because they did not expect a risen Lord. Their perception of reality saddened them, whereas, belief in the risen Lord would have empowered them to rejoice.

When Jesus began interacting with Cleopas and his friend, reminding them of Scripture and prophecies that had been fulfilled in him as Messiah, God's Word became implanted in their hearts and its power prompted them to invite Jesus to stay with them.

Perhaps the familiar blessing, "Praised be you, Adonai our God, King of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth," that Jesus spoke reminded them of the day Jesus spoke similar words after feeding the five thousand. "My Father gives you the true bread out of heaven... that gives life to the world.... I am the bread of life; he who comes to me shall not hunger"

As Jesus broke the bread, Cleopas and his friend recognized who he was and their

joyous discovery caused them to race back to Jerusalem to share the good news of Jesus' resurrection.

Pseudo-Christians travel their own road to Emmaus. Calling themselves disciples of Jesus, they don't commit to worship a risen Lord. They imitate true believers, fellowshiping and going to church, but they don't hunger to know God as he reveals himself in his Word.

Learning God's truth through his Word is how a person comes to an *epiginosko* knowledge of God with real certainty and clear understanding. Then he will understand what God wants him to do and can ask God to make him wise about spiritual things.

As Charles Colson says, "That knowledge comes only from fervent study of truth, that is, study of his Word. This is indispensable to genuine discipleship. It is indispensable to loving God."

Alford is a member of First Church, McComb.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

Transition

Hosea 4:1-3; 5:1-7

By Harold Simmons

Hosea has spoken about his family relationships in the earlier chapters, but in chapter 4, he begins to turn his attention to the spiritual condition of the covenant people.

He uses the covenant name of God, Yahweh, for emphasis as he says "hear the word of the Lord (Yahweh)." Hosea allowed us to see the condition of his family in order to draw a parallel between his family and the life actions of the people of God.

God gives a spiritual evaluation (4:1). In the military, we were inspected at least twice a year. During inspection times, higher headquarters would come in and look at our compliance with regulations. They would then give us a grade on how well we were following

the prescribed program. In other words, we were held accountable.

Here God is holding the Jewish nation accountable for their compliance with the covenant that he made with them and they are failing in all areas. God is making a charge against them that they have not lived up to the promises they have made to him.

Their godless behavior is due to the fact that they are dead spiritually. There is nothing to indicate they are related to a loving, faithful God. The people are living as though there is no God.

God has said, "I shall be your God and you shall be my people," but they are not living like they have a relationship with the living God.

We, today, are called the



Simmons

saints, but would you know it by our actions? God gives us an evaluation though his Holy Spirit. Many times he has a "charge against" us. We break the relationship we have with him through sin and the only way to heal that break is to be repentant and confess our sin to him.

No righteousness, only sin (4:2). God looked at their society and saw no sign of love for him. He has only seen the results of no relationship with him. Hosea makes a list of social sins (sins against others).

As always, any life that is lived without regard to God and his commands will result in hurts to others. Hosea went to the root of their problems by pointing out that there is no regard for God in their society.

Without any absolutes, there can be only anarchy in any society. It means every person for himself. Number one is the only one that counts. If lying benefits number one, then they would lie. It made no difference

that God has commanded not to lie.

However, if God is recognized and attention is given to adhering to his will, there will be concern that people do not break God's law against others. This attention to God will also bring us to ask for forgiveness for our sins against him and others.

Devastating results (4:3). There are many instances in the Old Testament of God using drought and famine to discipline his people. Drought and the resulting famine is not uncommon in the Near East.

The extent of this devastation calls for one to look beyond a common ecological happening. Hosea is pointing out that God is using this unusually harsh happening to discipline his people.

The negative actions of mankind not only hurt people, it also hurts all creation. Even the animals, birds, and fish are feeling the devastation. Sin has a long lasting effect on people and their environment.

Discipline in time (5:1-7). Notice that God's effort to disci-

pline is directed to both the Southern and Northern Kingdoms. God is trying to turn the situation around before it gets any worse. He always does that for his children.

There is always an attempt to bring grace before punishment. The Jews were guilty but God offers forgiveness. Through Hosea, God reaches out to all walks of life — "hear this priests, Israelites, royal house." To put it into modern terms "whosoever will."

God offers grace for all people of every age before it is too late.

Simmons is pastor of Hebron Church, Grenada.

Correction

The Explore the Bible Sunday School lesson for July 15 stated in error that Hosea was a citizen of Judah, the Southern Kingdom. Hosea was actually a citizen of Israel, the Northern Kingdom, and his book was written to Israel. The Baptist Record regrets the error.

Guidelines for submitting news and photographs

The Baptist Record is pleased to publish news and photographs of special events and activities in cooperating churches of the Baptist Convention.

THE BAPTIST

All news items are subject to editing, and all photographs are subject to cropping. News items and/or photographs can be published one time only. If you wish to publish a news item or photograph more than once, please indicate this in the submission.

THE VILLAGE VIEW



Ronny E. Robinson, Executive Director

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Gifts of Honor and Memory

A portion of The Village View is allocated each month to a list of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful, and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

JUNE 1-30, 2001 MEMORIALS

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Kay West (Farrow Manor campus, Coldwater) and Frances Boyanton (Dickerson Place campus, Brookhaven) were recently recognized at The Baptist Children's Village Board of Trustees luncheon for 25 years of service in child care.

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Mrs. Kuma T. Hedgepeth
Mrs. Lana Hawood
Mrs. Hazel Mills
Rogers Kenneth Haydon
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Mrs. Will Dodds
Mr. & Mrs. James Pace
Mr. Warren Saucier
Goss Baptist Church
Myrtle Shaw
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Wrenn
Katelyn Sibley
Rae Flynt
Robert Earl Sims
Graeber Brothers Inc.
Ellen Smith
Mrs. Doris Farmer
Mrs. Ivel Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Hale Singletary Jr.
Paul Smith
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Wrenn
Morgan Allison Stanford
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Beck
Henry Lee Stewart
Ms. Nelda M. Pickle
Dr. James R. Stingily
Dr. & Mrs. Carl S. Bozeman
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Hefner & Family
Susan Butler, Cathie, Barri & Aimee
Mr. Mervin Stockman
Mr. & Mrs. Max H. Jordan
Fred Swaney
Becky, John Wayne, Taylor & Lauren Jabour
Hulton E. Switzer
Mr. & Mrs. William A. Switzer
George Thompson
Galilee Baptist Church
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Jackson
Mrs. Inez Tierce
Philipp Baptist Church
Bert H. Williams
Morgan Chapel Baptist Church
Mrs. Conalia Wade
Ms. Amy C. Beard



The Junior High Choir from Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, made the India Nunnery campus of The Baptist Children's Village their first stop on their annual summer choir tour. They were under the direction of Cindy Jeffcoat.

Mr. Edwin Florence
Mr. & Mrs. Leroy Peoples
Mrs. Barbara Floyd
Tracey C. Foster
Mrs. Gladys Frederick
Mr. & Mrs. Jim Hagy
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart V. Allen
Gregory Stephen Galloway
Mr. & Mrs. Vaughn Galloway
Claudine Graham
Mr. & Mrs. Elliott F. Thomas Sr.
Elizabeth Green
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Mary Alice Green
Morgan Chapel BC
Marie Moak Greer
Mrs. Irene L. Brister
Mr. Earl B. Guess, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Virgil Boone
Carrie Chonnell
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Chonnell
Toni Chonnell
Charlotte McDonnell
Ms. Anna Rebecca Newsome
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Newsome
Randy Newsome
Chris Newsome
Mr. Pearl Ham
Ms. Carmen E. Pittman
Mrs. Beverly Harper
The Paige Family
Ms. Bezy Johnson
Mrs. Lolita Harrison
Mr. & Mrs. Hiram Davis Jr.
Carr Haskins
Mr. Kirk Haskins

Leola L. Hebert
Marvin T. Sandifer Family
Earnest Mary Holcomb
Rev. & Mrs. Carl Myers
Mr. Ben Holston
Harrisville Baptist Church
Walter Brooks Hooper
Mrs. Jacqueline B. Fuqua
Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Bennett Jr.
Kirk Jeffries
Miss Mary F. Wyatt
Michael J. Jenkins
Pleasant Hill BC-Carthage Friend
Mr. & Mrs. Floyd E. Coil
Lola Jennings
Ms. Elzene P. Bell
Linda Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Ernest L. Scruggs
Joyce Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmie Smithy
Mr. H. L. Jones
Mrs. Elmer E. Holmes
Ms. Ruth V. Whitt
Mr. John T. Keeton, III
Mrs. Margaret Z. Rayburn
Mrs. Virginia E. Umstead
Mr. & Mrs. Hayes Branscome
Mr. & Mrs. Harold B. Blalock
Mr. & Mrs. Billie J. Bonne
Bonner
Mr. & Mrs. John G. Hardy
Frances, Richie and Grace Defenbaugh
John T. Keeton, Jr.
Mrs. Kathryn Embry

Mrs. Burt Lee
Mrs. Will Dodds
Mr. & Mrs. James Pace
Mr. & Mrs. Buddy Donahoe
Mrs. Bertha Long
Mrs. Imogene L. Penn
Lowe Linda
Mr. & Mrs. Jimmy Jenkins
Kenneth McCarty
Alathean SSC, FBC-Collins
Rev. Curtis McGee
Ms. Amy C. Beard
William Ervin McLeilan, Jr.
Kelly & Susan Perry
Bilbo McNeel, Sr.
Pheba Baptist Church
J. J. Meyers
Mrs. Essie Mae Meyers
Pearl C. Miller
Mr. & Mrs. Neil Wrenn
Mr. Ray Mohan
Ms. Marguerite H. Walters
Mrs. Geneva Moore
Mr. & Mrs. E. L. Bennett Jr.
Katie Moore Nabors
Mr. & Mrs. Stuart V. Allen
George B. Noland
Douglas & Judy Noland & Family
Woodrow E. Pack
Mrs. Hubert L. Alexander
Mr. & Mrs. Dudley McQueen
Mrs. Mary Jean Parks
Mrs. Kathryn Embry
Frances, Richie & Grace Defenbaugh

Several staff members of The Baptist Children's Village India-Nunnery campus in Jackson served Popeye's Chicken and Biscuits to the children for dinner on July 5. Popeye's Chicken and Biscuits donated dinner for over 135 staff and children. For dessert the residents were served homemade blueberry cobbler from the blueberries they picked at Cotton's blueberry farm in Carthage.

Church ministry assistants share 'footprints'

By Linda Jenkins
Correspondent



NEW OFFICERS — Officers for the Mississippi Baptist Secretaries Association for 2001-2002 include (front row, from left) President Sandra Smith of Bay Springs Church, Bay Springs; First Vice President Julia Field of Meadowood Church, Amory; (back row, from left) Second Vice President Robbie Linley of Winston Association, Louisville; and Secretary-Treasurer Sharon Brewer of Rankin Association, Brandon. (Photo by Betty Anne Bailey)

Bibliocipher

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QCNHNPEHN GM UHND-
CHNZ, MN TSFE THN
UNWEGN VNTV DE DCN
STQ UM DCN UEVM EP
WCHAFD; DCTD MN
FCEOSV UN GTHHANV DE
TZEDCNH, NLNZ DE CAG
QCE AF HTAFNV PHEG
DCN VNTV, DCTD QN
FCEOSV UHAZY PEHDC
PHOAD OZDE YEV.

HEGTZF FNLNZ: PEOH

Clue: M = Y

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last week's puzzle: Mark Ten: Forty-Five.

"Footprints" from all across Mississippi — and even some from neighboring Louisiana — led to Camp Garawya in Clinton for two special days recently.

The camp was the setting for the annual State Ministry Assistants Conference, also known as the Mississippi Baptist Secretaries Conference.

Secretaries of churches, associations, and agencies gathered to "take a step" toward sharpening their ministry skills and receiving information and inspiration.

Conference coordinator Sandi Komurke, financial ministry assistant at First Church, Madison, used as her theme, A Woman's Walk with the Master.

The theme Scripture was Col. 1:10, "...that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing Him, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God...."

Highlighting each day were inspirational thoughts shared by Laura Newell DiFatta, a member of Dawson Memorial Church, Birmingham, and daughter of Mississippi Baptist Foundation associate director Jane Newell.

General sessions included worship, devotional time, and special music.

Other "pathways" led to individual choices of simultaneous sessions which covered a variety of topics. Well-qualified

conference leaders led participants down "trails" toward self improvement, efficiency, and skill improvement.

Session topics included a beginning journey for new secretaries, health and weight management, handling crisis situations, children's issues, retirement plans, business communication, office efficiency, and Baptist polity.

Gardening tips, ceramics, and beaded jewelry crafting were some of the "for fun and profit" choices.

The Mississippi Baptist Secretaries Association held their annual business ses-

sion and sponsored a banquet. Susan Clark shared her personal testimony through word and song as the banquet's special guest.

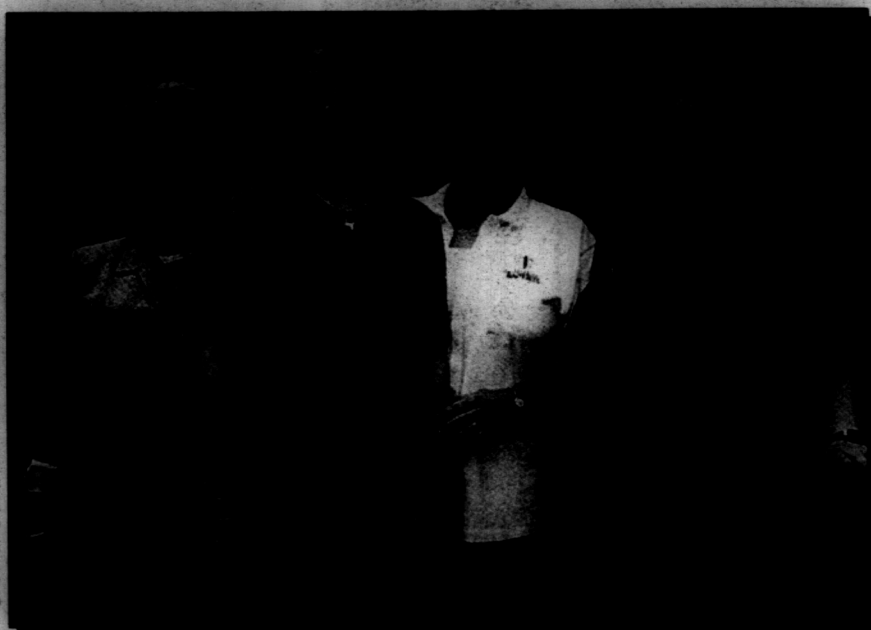
Other "footnotes" during the two-day conference included a fashion preview by a woman's dress shop, an onsite LifeWay Christian Store, door prizes, personal quiet time, meeting new friends, renewing old acquaintances, a silent auction, and an opportunity to seek advice from representatives of the Southern Baptist Convention's Annuity Board.

Each ministry assistant in attendance felt she had "taken a step" in

the right direction by making the effort to attend the 2001 spring conference.

Some of the women had to "step away" from the conference a bit early in order to attend the National Association of Southern Baptist Secretaries meeting, which was held at the LifeWay Conference Center at Ridgecrest, N.C., later in the week.

The 2002 state meeting, which is sponsored by the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, is scheduled for April 8-9.



LEADING THE WAY — Conference Leaders for 2001 State Ministry Assistants Conference at Camp Garaywa in Clinton included (from left) Jane Newell, associate director of the Mississippi Baptist Foundation; Laura DiFatta, keynote speaker and daughter of Newell; Kay McDonnell of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department; and conference coordinator Sandi Komurke of First Church, Madison. (Photo by Betty Anne Bailey)

Beijing gets Olympic nod; human rights bypassed

LONDON (BP) — Concerns about Chinese human rights abuses notwithstanding, Beijing has been chosen to host the 2008 Olympic Games by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

The other two contenders to host sport's most important event, Osaka in Japan and Istanbul, Turkey, were eased out of the running by concerns largely relating to finances.

It was the first time such a vote took place without IOC members having visited the cities concerned. After a vote-buying scandal in the late 1990s surrounding the Salt Lake City bid for the 2002 Winter Olympics, the committee prohibited members from visiting the bidding cities.

Instead, an evaluation commission visited the cities to examine technical aspects of each bid, including the facilities being planned, accommodations, transportation, environmental issues, finances, and public support.

Political and human rights issues were not addressed.

The evaluation commission's report thus carries added weight, as many of the IOC members voting for a host city will not have visited some of the cities for many years, if ever.

In Beijing's case, the report notes that "the process and pace of change taking place in China and Beijing and the possible challenges caused by population and economic growth in the period leading up to 2008," but expresses confidence that the challenges can be met, CNSNews.com reported.

"It is the commission's belief that a Beijing Games would leave a unique legacy to China and to sport and the commission is confident that Beijing would organize an excellent games," the report said.

The report said the challenges facing the other two cities also can be overcome. Paris' bid had some unresolved planning elements of the proposed Olympic Village, while Toronto faced the challenge of a private and public alliance to deliver waterfront sports venues and Olympic Village developments.

The report makes it clear the assessments were of a technical nature, and that the sticky issue of human rights was not taken into account — but, it adds, "it is impossible to ignore the public debate on political issues such as human rights which, in the present

context, is imposed on sports."

Of the candidate cities, the Chinese capital has long been considered the front-runner, having lost the race to host the

2000 Games to Sydney by just two votes. It is also widely thought to have had the backing of retiring IOC head Juan Antonio Samaranch.

